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LES CARACTÈRES ET L'ÉDUCATION MORALE, ÉTUDE DE PSYCHOLOGIE APPLIQUÉE. Par F. Queyrat. Alcan, 1896.

M. Queyrat's volume in the "Bibliothèque de Philosophie Contemporaine" is an instance of the great interest taken by the general public in France on all topics connected with psychology and education. It is brightly put together, but, like all of M. Queyrat's books, is nothing more than a clever compilation. There is nothing original in it from cover to cover, and the demands made on the well-known works of men from Fouillée and Guyau to Bain and Sully are unsparing. Nevertheless, at least one of these books has passed to a second edition, so that it may safely be assumed that they "fill a gap."

W. J. GREENSTREET.

SKETCHES OF LESSONS IN MORAL INSTRUCTION. By E. Reynolds. London: Neumann & Co., 1895.

To those who merely require a sketch, this little pamphlet of some forty pages seems to give too much. To those who lack the subject-matter, it gives too little. It is difficult to see for what class of teachers it is intended. In plan it contains no better arrangement than we find in Fricke, Seelye, Everett, Steele, or others. We would suggest something more in the nature of a careful and detailed *analysis* of the substance of each lesson, placing in italics the sub-sections suitable for omission in longer or more advanced lessons. Stories, etc., should be referred to by a number or letter and relegated to an appendix. Then we have a bird's-eye view of our lesson, and, if we require more than that, Mr. Reynolds's notes will not be of much use.

W. J. GREENSTREET.

CRIMINAL SOCIOLOGY. By Enrico Ferri, Professor of Criminal Law, etc. Vol. II. of The Criminology Series. Edited by W. Douglas Morrison. 8vo. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1895. Pp. xiii., 284.

This volume is a translation of that portion of Professor Ferri's work on Criminal Sociology which is immediately concerned with the practical problems of criminality. It is strongly and clearly written, and should be welcomed not only by those who have professionally to deal with criminals, but by all who would face the pathological aspects of social life thoughtfully and manfully.

The first chapter discusses *the data of criminal anthropology*.

It is an inquiry into the natural genesis of criminality, into the physical, biological, and social conditions which tend to develop criminals; and it goes without saying that the author has no lasting hope in any methods of dealing with crime which are not based on a study of the originative conditions, and which do not aim at the amelioration of these. The old punitive craze, still persistent in more or less attenuated form, is typically represented by its unfailing recipe,—a hemp-rope. But as the savage desire for vengeance died away, and as society began to be dimly aware that it was more or less responsible for making its own criminals, practical measures assumed a humaner aspect and a wider aim,—in the first place still, of preserving the society; in the second place, of improving the criminal. Then as crime began to be recognized as a social disease, as a phenomenon admitting of scientific investigation, and not as a hopeless enigma, the feeling has grown that, while it may still be necessary to lop off a member, to segregate the infectious and so on, the primary problem is that of *social hygiene*. The same transition is obviously paralleled in the modern insistence on preventive medicine.

The chief points in the first chapter are: (1) a temperate insistence on the value of anthropological data in criminology, and (2) an indication of the biological and psychological distinctions between the five types of criminal which the author recognizes,—viz., criminal madmen, born criminals, criminals by contracted habits, occasional criminals, and criminals of passion.

The second chapter deals with *the data of criminal statistics*, and has largely to do with the adverse social conditions which drive people to crime, and with the inefficacy of punishment as a curative method. Crime is a function of three variables: (*a*) biological,—*e.g.*, a low physical and mental type; (*b*) physical,—*e.g.*, a severe winter, and (*c*) social,—*e.g.*, an industrial crisis. Statistics corroborate what appears to many quite plain on general grounds, that severe punitive measures do not lessen crime. In certain cases they may deter and even cure individuals, but on the whole they must be ineffective as long as the originative conditions—organic and social—persist. "Crime has been compared to an impetuous torrent which ought to be enclosed between the dikes of punishment, lest civilized society should be submerged. I do not deny that punishments are the dikes of crime, but I assert that they are dikes of no great strength or utility." That this is no mere assertion the book shows.

The third chapter deals with *practical reforms*, by which are meant not the innumerable measures which are or should be in action to preserve and improve the well-being of society, but particular methods in the treatment of the criminal. Punishments and penal codes will and must remain till the millennium; they are essential to the protection of society; but the author's endeavor is to show how criminal procedure and legislation, sentence and punishment, prison and asylum, may without any violent breach with the past be modified "in accordance with the inferences from a scientific study of crime as a natural and social phenomenon." Some such defensive system as the author sketches "must be substituted for the criminal and penitentiary systems of the classical school, so soon as the daily experience of every nation shall have established the conviction, which at this moment is more or less profound, but merely of a general character, that these systems are henceforth incompatible with the needs of society, not only by their crude pedantry, but also because their consequences are becoming daily more disastrous." But behind these defensive measures lie the yet more important preventive measures of *social hygiene*.

It were much to be desired that those whose business it is to deal directly with criminals, as judges, governors, commissioners, and the like, were required to have some sound knowledge of certain departments of biology, anthropology, and medicine. That is too much to hope for soon. In the meantime, however, it is their duty, even more than the philosopher's, to study such a book as this.

J. ARTHUR THOMSON.

EDINBURGH.

PARASITISM, ORGANIC AND SOCIAL. By Jean Massart and Émile Vandervelde. Published by Swan Sonnenschein & Co.

This interesting little volume is the work of two teachers in the University of Brussels. Jean Massart, a botanist, treats of the lower parasites from the point of view of a biologist, and Émile Vandervelde, a political economist, discourses upon the *social* parasites who are content to live a life of ease at the expense of their neighbors. The work is admirably translated by Mr. William Macdonald and revised by Mr. J. Arthur Thomson, who has added some very valuable and often critical foot-notes. There is a preface by Professor Patrick Geddes.